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## Senate

(Legislative day of Monday, January 10, 2022)

The Senate met at 12:30 p.m., on the expiration of the recess, and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

### PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Eternal God, who causes the morning stars to sing together, Your presence fills us with joy. Show our lawmakers the path that leads to life. As they strive to serve You faithfully, guide their steps to the destination You choose.

Lord, remind them that You know their hearts and hear their requests for help. Continue to be their refuge and strength, a very present help in troubled times. Keep Your people safe and surround them with the shield of Your favor.

We pray in Your strong Name. Amen.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The President pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

### CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Morning business is closed.

### EXECUTIVE SESSION

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Amitabha Bose, of New Jersey, to be Administrator of the Federal Railroad Administration.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Colorado.

Mr. HICKENLOOPER. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HICKENLOOPER). Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Republican leader is recognized.

#### BIDEN ADMINISTRATION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, 12 months ago, a newly inaugurated President Biden stood on the west front of the Capitol, and here is what he had to say:

My whole soul is in this: bringing America together, uniting our people, uniting our nation.

Yesterday, that very same man delivered a deliberately divisive speech that was designed to pull our country further apart.

Twelve months ago, this President said we should see each other not as adversaries but as neighbors. Yesterday, he called millions of Americans his domestic "enemies."

Twelve months ago, the President called on Americans to "join forces,

stop the shouting, lower the temperature," but yesterday, he shouted that if you disagree with him, you are George Wallace. George Wallace? If you don't pass the laws he wants, you are Bull Connor. And if you oppose giving Democrats untrammelled one-party control of the country, well, you are Jefferson Davis.

Twelve months ago, this President said "disagreement must not lead to disunion." Ah, but yesterday, he invoked the bloody disunion of the Civil War—the Civil War—to demonize Americans who disagree with him. He compared—listen to this—a bipartisan majority of Senators to literal traitors. How profoundly—profoundly—un-*Presidential*.

Look, I have known, liked, and personally respected Joe Biden for many years. I did not recognize the man at the podium yesterday.

American voters did not give President Biden a mandate for very much. He got a tied Senate and negative coat-tails in the House—the narrowest majorities in over a century. The President did not get a mandate to transform America or reshape society, but he did arguably get a mandate to do just one central thing that he campaigned on. Here is what that was: Bridge a divided country; lower the temperature; dial down the perpetual air of crisis in our politics. That is the one central promise that Joe Biden made. It is the one job citizens actually hired him to do. It is the one project that would have actually been consistent—consistent—with the Congress that voters elected. Ah, but President Biden has chosen to fail his own test.

The President's rant—rant—yesterday was incoherent, incorrect, and beneath his office. He used the phrase "Jim Crow 2.0" to demagogue a law that makes the franchise more accessible than in his own State of Delaware. He blasted Georgia's procedures

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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